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BETTER VIEWS IN ENGLAND.—In a recent letter from Newman Hall, in the *Independent*, we find that some Englishmen are beginning to entertain calm, common-sense views of Mr. Sumner's speech:—“I would fain interpret Mr. Sumner's speech thus: ‘The conduct of Great Britain was productive of evil to America immeasurably beyond all damage done to individuals. It is not enough that the compensation awarded on such claims should be paid. There should also be some public official expression of regret for the course pursued by the government, and for the manifold evils resulting to America, which could not be included in the calculation.’ If this is all that is meant”—clearly this was the upshot of it all—“no doubt England will make such reparation. Personal damages will be paid on a just arbitration and settlement; and satisfaction will be made to the American Government and nation by the admission of faults where faults have been committed. Both our honor and our interests would prompt to this. And I am disposed to think this may be Mr. Sumner's meaning. For he truly expresses that a treaty which leaves the principal wrong untouched and unredressed, is only a pacification in appearances; and that it is better to probe the wound to the bottom, in order to secure its thorough healing.” * * * * *

“The very thought of war is hateful between our nations. We are one blood; we have common sympathies. The love of justice; a generous desire to make reparation for a wrong, whether the party wronged be weak or strong; a sincere affection for America as our own kindred—these chiefly prompt this desire. Diplomacy may do much; but Christian influence and earnest prayer may do much more. Let the Christian churches of America resolve, and let us here resolve, that, God helping us, there shall be no strife between us, for we are brethren. Let the principles of Christ be carried out in national as in individual affairs. On both sides let there be justice done; but let meekness and forgiveness be also in exercise. Do not run the risk of quarreling with those who are true friends, because of what was done by other people. I know that to a certain degree a nation and government are responsible for the acts of their predecessors. But this may be carried too far. Is it worth while to endanger peace with those who are peaceful because of wrongs done by others in their name? Would not war between us be so mutually injurious, so destructive to human life, so fraught with untold calamities to millions of unoffending, industrious people, who had no share in the wrongs complained of; would it not be such a scandal to civilization, such a blow to liberty, such a disgrace to free institutions and popular government; above all, such an outrage to Christianity, such a crime in the sight of heaven, that Christians should strive in prayer with God, and in persuasion with their fellow-men, so as to avert the possibility of it?

For the present, it seems to me that *all questions of Evangelical Alliance, of Bible Societies, of Christian Missions to the Heathen, etc., are of secondary importance to this which involves in it both the temporal and spiritual interests of our two nations, with all those enterprises of philanthropy in which they are engaged.* The world would be justified in casting back with contempt all lessons of piety taught by two such nations, engaging in mutual slaughter and destruction. My hope is in the piety of both America and England. Let our churches lead opinion on both sides, compelling mere statesmen and politicians to follow where a higher and holier law may lead. Thus may Mr. Sumner's words be verified: ‘It is sometimes said that war between us must come sooner or later. I do not believe it. But, if it must come, let it be later, and then I

am sure it will never come. Meanwhile good men must unite to make it impossible.’”

How truly, and with how much force, might all this be said not only of war between England and America, but of any and all war. All men, the world over, are brethren, children of a common Father in heaven; and the idea of war among them, of mutual butchery and devastation, ought to be regarded by all with horror as a species of devilish depravity or madness.

WANTED — \$ 100,000.

We are thoroughly convinced that the time has arrived for greatly increased efforts on behalf of the Peace cause in our country, and that unless we make them in this time of quiet, another terrible rebellion at home or war abroad will convince us, when too late, that we have let the golden opportunity pass unimproved. Our recently enlarged operations, especially in the West, have shown an interest in this cause, and a disposition to promote it, not before anticipated. We find ministers almost universally willing to co-operate, and many men and women ready to give themselves to the work as agents and colporteurs.

Our greatest difficulty at present is a lack of funds. Especially do we need the sum named above to invest in books and tracts on the subject of Peace and War. We have on our catalogue over 100 publications of great value, and ought to have a depository of them in almost every city and county of the nation, not only to supply those who wish to procure them for their own perusal or distribution, but to accommodate our agents and colporteurs who may be laboring in their vicinity. It is, therefore, proposed to raise \$100,000 to establish these depositories, and aid in putting the works in circulation.

To accomplish this, we appeal to persons of means and benevolence. We shall send this number of our paper to some whom we know to be such, in the hope that they will not only subscribe for it, but aid liberally in making up the amount needed. We desire that each person who reads this article, will consider it a personal appeal to himself or herself, just as much as if it were in the form of a written letter or personal visit. The Peace Cause must be sustained by the large benefactions of the few until it acquires the sympathy and support of the many, which it certainly will when they become thoroughly acquainted with it.

And how can you invest money where it will do more good than in the way proposed? The books purchased by your donation may be sold, and the proceeds invested in others, and this process repeated for a hundred years to come, so that by their instrumentality you will continue to speak for the cause long after you have “slept the sleep that knows no waking.” Will you not prize and embrace the glorious privilege of thus virtually living and acting among succeeding generations?

If you cannot give to the Society outright, will you not at least loan it such sums as you can spare from time to time, on condition that the interest shall be paid annually

in the publications of the Society, with which you can do much good, and the principal whenever called for, if during your life, but if not wanted by you, to be a donation at your decease? You will thus have a deposit available whenever you need it, while it will be doing good until then, or for generations to come, in case your circumstances allow it to remain. One friend of our cause has at different times already deposited \$800 in this way, and we hope that others of larger means will thus lay up their hundreds and thousands of dollars where they will be both safe and useful.

Those who wish to do so, or to make direct donations to the Society, or to subscribe for the *Advocate*, can address Rev. GEO. C. BECKWITH, No. 40 Winter Street, Boston, Mass.; or Rev. A. LORD, No. 45 Madison Street, Chicago, Ill.

SWINDLING SOLDIERS.—A large number of complaints of fraud in withholding bounty money have been made against certain parties in New York, locally denominated "shysters,"—an expression applied to lawyers who are far from scrupulous how they may procure business, provided they get their fees. One hundred complaints of soldiers have been entered against one man! and the name of complainants is legion against many who have cheated them out of their bounties, or deceived them by false statements, and swindled them out of the larger portion of their claims.

A Government Commissioner has been sitting during several days to hear these complainings which are stated to include half a million of dollars. Many of the claimants were Germans, who are generally ignorant of the English language, and who have had no opportunity to learn the character and provisions of the law passed on the subject. These persons sold their claims to them at merely nominal prices. In some instances the amounts paid for a hundred dollar claim—which might have been collected in two or three days—varied between \$25 and \$35, and the unlucky dupes were obliged to sign receipts for the full amounts. The soldiers, their widows and orphans, or those who had their claims to collect, were content with even these paltry sums, and submitted uncomplainingly to the disgraceful "shaves," until some of the agents refused to give them anything, and made false representations that no action had been taken by the Pension Bureau in Washington. This was too much for the claimants to bear, and they at once sent letters to Mr. Gibson, the Agent of the Division of Deferred Claims, inquiring if their claims had been paid. They soon became alive to the deception; for in almost every case the money had been drawn.

Some of the rascals who had means, have been obliged to refund; but others have stepped out. One lawyer has been arrested, and a Rhode Island soldier has proved that, out of \$100 realized on his claim, the lawyer paid him only \$35. This payment is, however, above the average, which is easily reduced when it is considered that many of the claimants received nothing at all. There is a good deal of excitement regarding the matter; and it will probably result in the exile of many, and the disgrace of a few of the Sampson Brasses of New York, provided such fellows can be disgraced.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

GENERAL PEACE.—Peace among nations, if not strictly universal, we believe to be now more nearly so than for many years. In Christendom all its countries are reposing in peace

with each other; nor are we aware that any pagan nations are now at war.

ENGLAND.—The very decisive rejection of the Johnson-Clarendon treaty by our Senate created an instant and general excitement apparently among all classes. Mr. Sumner's speech has been, day after day, and week after week, a target for hostile, often angry criticism by the press of all parties, and of no party. For a time nearly everybody seemed to look upon war as imminent, if not inevitable. The public mind, however, has become more calm and reasonable, and the arrival of Mr. Motley, our new minister, with words of kindness and conciliation, promises to change the general tone. In Liverpool he was received by the mayor; and in response to an address presented him, he declared that it was the earnest wish of the American people and of the Administration, to cultivate friendly relations with the Government and people of Great Britain; that the happiness of the world, the advancement of civilization, and the best hopes of humanity depend on the concord of all branches of the human family, especially of two leading nations connected by public and personal interests, allied by blood, addicted to commerce and the arts of peace; and he promised that his best efforts should be used to promote a good understanding. The journals generally, though persisting in the declaration that the claims advanced in Mr. Sumner's speech cannot be conceded, yet expressed in advance a welcome to the new minister, and a disposition to meet him in a friendly spirit.

In other matters there has been little out of the ordinary course. The discussion has gone on with abated interest on the Irish-Church bill, with a strong majority for the Ministry, but with some doubt about its fate in the House of Lords. A new idea is now before Parliament—the creation of *life-peers*; a measure likely to succeed and much needed to infuse fresh life and vigor into that body.

FRANCE.—Mr. Burlingame, with his Chinese associates, is likely to secure with France a treaty akin to the one with England. The embassy seems to be everywhere both popular and successful.—The elections have been attended with a great deal of disturbance, and have on the whole terminated, as usual, in favor of the government, though some very strong men on the other side have been elected in the cities, while nearly all the country districts went for Napoleon.

SPAIN.—The Cortes, by a two-third majority, have decided in favor of monarchy, but make no progress as yet in securing a monarchy. The Constitution, as a whole, is excellent, and proves or promises a great advance for a country so long ignorant and so wretchedly misgoverned.

GERMANY.—A Protestant Congress, assembled at Worms, and attended by 20,000 persons from all Germany, passed a unanimous resolution against the Pope's exhortations for the return of Protestants to the Romish Church.—There is a large increase of emigrants from Prussia to the United States. On two days no less than 3,500 peasants were conveyed to Bremen for transportation.

AUSTRIA.—The Emperor, in closing the Reichstrath, congratulated them on the favorable state of the country in comparison with past years, and said that peace was indispensable to national prosperity, and that Austria's present relations assured him of its continuance.—Our Minister, Hon. John Jay, had not reached Vienna.

TURKEY.—On the first day of the Mohammedan year, the Sultan received the foreign ministers in a body, and gave a pacific speech on the settlement of difficulties with Greece, the pacification of Candia, and the friendly relations of Turkey with all powers.

The influence of Christian nations, on those not Christian, seems to be increasing in all parts of the world; and paving the way for a more favorable reception if not of our religion in its saving power, at least in its general civilizing influences.

CUBA—Seems to be involving herself more and more in her domestic imbroglio. It has been difficult to prevent filibustering expeditions in aid of the revolutionists; and some considerable reinforcements, with munitions of war, have lately landed, and joined them. Still the revolution would seem to have little prospect of final success.